

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter contained in claim 14.

Claims 10-13 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hamaguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,473,254 B1). In response, Applicants amended independent claim 10 to further define first and second servo sectors, first and second servo interruption periods, and a relationship between the first and second servo interruption periods, and respectfully traverse the rejection as it applies to the amended claim.

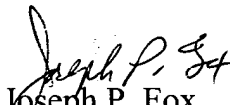
More specifically, the magnetic disk is now defined as having a plurality of first servo sectors and a plurality of second servo sectors arranged alternately. The servo patterns are stored on the first servo sectors and the second servo sectors. Claim 10 further recites that when a servo interruption period corresponding to adjacent first servo sectors is a first servo interruption period corresponding to adjacent first servo sectors and a first servo interruption period, a servo interruption period corresponding to an adjacent first servo sector and a second servo sector is a second servo interruption period, and that the second servo interruption period is equal to or less than half of the first servo interruption period. Support for this amendment can be found on page 8, line 13 to page 9, line 8 of Applicants' specification.

In the Office Action, the Examiner merely cites Hamaguchi as showing servo patterns in FIG. 7. However, Hamaguchi fails to disclose or suggest a magnetic disk having a plurality of first servo sectors and a plurality of second servo sectors on which the servo

patterns are stored, arranged alternatively, and further have a second servo interruption period corresponding to adjacent first and second servo sectors that is less than a half of a first servo interruption period corresponding to adjacent first servo sectors. For this reason, withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection of claims 10-13 and 15 is respectfully requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,
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